

## METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING A QUALITY OF SERVICE PATH THROUGH NETWORKS

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A core network that includes a number of relay nodes and edge nodes,  
5 intercoupled by network links, interconnects a plurality data transfer entities through gateway elements. Each gateway element is allocated a portion of the data communicating (QoS) resource of certain of the links, and maintains information of that allocation. When a gateway receives a request for a data transfer from a data transfer entity with a particular communicating resource requirement, it will check its associated information to determine of  
10 the allocated resource is sufficient. If not, the gateway may ask for a reconfiguration of resources that re-allocate communicating resource from one gateway element to the asking gateway element.

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